

STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

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News Release

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Board to Discuss Priorities for 2003-05 at July 9 Meeting

Wednesday, July 9, 9 a.m.-4:15 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 170 S Oak, Colville

The State Board of Health meets Wednesday, July 9 in Colville. The Board expects to adopt a work plan for the 2003-05 biennium.

There will be two rule adoption items before the board. One is a public hearing on whether to split the onsite sewage rule into separate chapters for large and small systems. The hearing will be followed by possible board action. The Board is also expected to vote on a minor technical change to a rule governing the emergency powers and duties of local health officers. The rule change has been proposed using the "expedited rule making" process and does not require a hearing.

The board will also decide whether to endorse an interagency report on a pilot project that tested the feasibility of requiring well-child exams for children entering kindergarten. The report does not recommend implementing a requirement at this time.

Other items on the Board's agenda include: a discussion of health-related cuts in the state operating budget; an update on school environmental health; and a review of a draft report on state boards of health in other states.

Copies of the agenda and related materials are available by contacting the Board of Health at (360) 236-4110 or by visiting the Board's Web site at www.doh.wa.gov/sboh/.

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The State Board of Health serves the citizens of Washington by working to understand and prevent disease across the entire population. Established in 1889 by the State Constitution, the Board provides leadership by suggesting public health policies and actions, by regulating certain activities, and by providing a public forum. The governor appoints ten members who fill three-year terms. Visit the board's Web site at www.doh.wa.gov/sboh.